

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/052562

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H05B41/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H05B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A | GB 2 327 523 A (INMATIC LIMITED) 27 January 1999 (1999-01-27) page 9, line 4 - page 11, line 2; figures 7,8 | 1-11 |
| A | EP 0 817 536 A (FUJI POLYMERTECH CO LTD) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07) cited in the application abstract; figure 5 | 1-11 |
| A | US 6 515 522 B2 (SHIBASAKI MASAOKI ET AL) 4 February 2003 (2003-02-04) cited in the application abstract; figure 1 paragraph '0025! | 1-11 |
| | -/-- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2003, no. 12, 5 December 2003 (2003-12-05) & JP 2003 234181 A (DENSO CORP), 22 August 2003 (2003-08-22) abstract | 1-11 |
| A | US 5 347 198 A (KIMBALL ROBERT A) 13 September 1994 (1994-09-13) the whole document | 1-11 |

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Information on patent family members

International Application No

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| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| GB 2327523 | A | 27-01-1999 | AU 8450598 A WO 9904382 A1 | 10-02-1999 28-01-1999 |
| EP 0817536 | A | 07-01-1998 | JP 10022071 A DE 69716172 D1 DE 69716172 T2 EP 0817536 A2 US 6144164 A | 23-01-1998 14-11-2002 05-06-2003 07-01-1998 07-11-2000 |
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| JP 2003234181 | A | 22-08-2003 | NONE | |
| US 5347198 | A | 13-09-1994 | NONE | |